



Bristol Tree Forum Committee meeting minutes, Monday 18th Jan 19:00

Mark Ashdown (Chair), Stephanie French, Sean Harding, Dougal Matthews, Vassili Papastavrou (secretary) James Smith, Chris Wallace

1. Reports from Officers (Treasurer's report - banking switch). We have decided to switch banks from Nat West to Metro Bank and as a result we are getting an incentive of £1,250. We have been assured that we are in time to get the money, but it has not yet been received. There is £4,026 in the account. In addition, the carbon calculator is being revised.

2. The Committee discussed a request by the City Design Manager for BCC for a meeting to discuss the role of the BTF.

3. Tree Champions: Given the current lockdown it will be difficult for tree champions to engage in community tree planting this spring. Stephanie has developed an introductory booklet for new tree champions with lots of links. In addition to 7 members of the committee there are 27 other Tree Champions. 22 of these have signed on to Stephanie's planning modules. Stephanie is in discussions with individual champions who want to get into discussions with the neighbouring champions.

4. Tree campaign coverage on BTF website. It has been suggested that current tree campaigns should be summarised on the BTF web site. To start the ball rolling, John Tarlton has summarised the campaign to save the M32 maples. A new tab on the front of the BTF web site which leads to some text about current campaigns could be prepared.

5. Possible acquisition of urban "woodland". An exploratory discussion was held regarding the general acquisition of unused greenspace with existing trees, with one particular site in mind.

6. Ongoing projects

- Failure of Bristol Metrobus trees: Mark has been trying to collate a list of all Metrobus trees that have failed (at least 50% had died within a year) and whether they will be replaced as the responsibility for replacement under the contract will soon end. Attempts to obtain this information through FOIs have largely failed. Some trees are due to be replaced on Hengrove Way

- 1600 oaks review and future plans. Following the cancellation and postponement of a large number of tree planting campaigns as a result of COVID, some 750,000 trees were due to be



ploughed back in. The BTF bought 1,600 trees and these were distributed free. This tree planting has been [mapped](#). Given the success of this project, we would like to do it again.

- Bristol Zoo. The BTF is engaging with Bristol Zoo, following the plans for the Clifton site to be sold, to ensure that this important collection of trees is protected.

7. Any other business

There was no other business